

**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/614,875

Examiner

John Q. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

SATO ET AL.

Art Unit

3654

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to attached examiner's amendment.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-14.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_.

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in an Email from Mr. Louis DeJuidice on 10/6/05.

The application has been amended as follows:

In claim 1, "a taper portion...are mated" (lines 15-22) have been changed to

--a taper portion comprising:

a first taper portion inclined toward at least one direction from the tip part of the teeth to at least one terminal; and

a second taper portion inclined toward at least another direction from the tip part of the teeth to at least one terminal;

vertical portions comprising:

a first vertical portion extending in a substantially vertical manner from the terminal of the first taper portion to the base portion; and

a second vertical portion extending in a substantially vertical manner from the terminal of the second taper portion to the base portion;

and

at least one portion of each of said teeth is constituted so that the first vertical portion of each of the teeth of the reel teeth portion contacts the first vertical portion of each of the teeth of the brake teeth portion when the reel teeth portion and the brake teeth portion are mated and

at least another portion of each of said teeth is constituted so that the second vertical portion of each of the teeth of the reel teeth portion contacts the second vertical portion of different teeth of the brake teeth portion when the reel teeth portion and the brake teeth portion are mated--.

In claim 2, "each of said teeth...upon the mating" (lines 10-16) has been changed to --each of said teeth having a first taper portion which is inclined toward at least one direction from a tip part of the teeth, a second taper portion which is inclined toward at least another direction from the tip part, a first vertical portion extending in a substantially vertical manner from an end terminal of the first taper portion to the base portion, and a second vertical portion extending in a substantially vertical manner from an end terminal of the second taper portion to the base portion, and at least one portion of each of said teeth is constituted so that the first vertical portion contacts the first vertical portion of opposing teeth upon the mating and at least another portion of each of said teeth is constituted so that the second vertical portion contacts the second vertical portion of different opposing teeth upon the mating--.

In claims 4 and 10, line 2, "break" has been changed to --brake--.

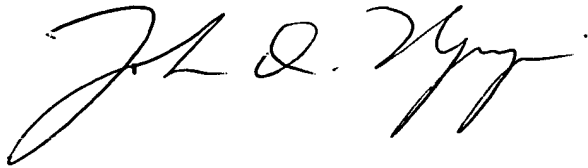
In claims 5 and 11, line 4, "the of" has been deleted.

In the specification, page 28, line 6, "AH" has been changed to -- $\Delta$ H--.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to John Q. Nguyen whose telephone number is (571) 272-6952. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday, from 7:00 AM to 4:30 PM. The examiner can also be reached on alternate Fridays.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Katherine Matecki, can be reached on (571) 272-6951. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (571) 273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Q. Nguyen". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of each name being capitalized and prominent.

John Q. Nguyen  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 3654